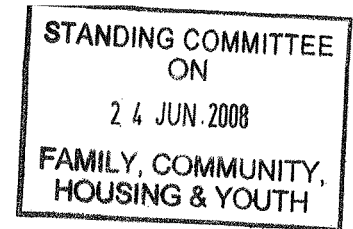


A.O.C. 2/7/08

Submission No. 378
(Inq into better support for carers)

Barbara

Committee Secretary,
Standing Committee on Family, Community, Housing and Youth,
PO Box 6021, House of Representatives,
Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600.



Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to draw your attention to my problem as a result of my husband being a dialysis patient. Dialysis is a life sustaining treatment (i.e. not optional) and he dialyses three times a week.

There are two shifts daily for dialysis. One is in the morning from 7 to 8 am until 1 to 2 pm. The afternoon shift is from 1 to 2 pm until 6 to 7 pm.

We are fortunate that there is a Community Transport available to us. However, this does not operate before – or after hours, thus limiting our use of it, which is also one way only.

Also, even with the ACT Taxi Subsidy Scheme it becomes rather expensive if used 3 times each week over a year. Therefore, there is a significant need for a subsidised community transport or other scheme for those patients whose carer's are no longer able to do the driving before or after hours.

The above problem is accentuated by the fact that there is no direct bus to the hospital and the nearest bus stop is over 1km away.

Your help and advice will be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Barbara

23.6.2008.